



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney

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**GRANDMOTHER SENTENCED TO 168 MONTHS IN FEDERAL PRISON
FOR KILLING GRANDCHILD AT FT. HOOD**

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced that in Waco, 57-year-old Rose M. Cherry was sentenced to 168 months in federal prison and ordered to pay a \$2,500 fine in connection with the death of her 4-year-old grandchild.

"This is a sad end to a sad case, but Ms. Cherry has no one to blame but herself for this tragedy. If only she had asked for help, this child might be alive today," stated **U.S. Attorney Johnny Sutton**.

On October 1, 2004, a federal jury found Cherry guilty of 2nd degree murder. The jury found that between 12:30 am and 3:30 am on May 13, 2003, Cherry assaulted the child which resulted in severe bruising and numerous lacerations to her arms, hands and legs. Testimony presented during trial reflected that Cherry advised law enforcement and Childrens Protective Services that she whipped the child several times throughout the day. The girl was pronounced dead at a local hospital sometime after 3:00 am. The official cause of death was later determined to be homicidal violence, including blunt force trauma. According to the medical examiner, she counted approximately 100 marks on the child's body that had been caused from a belt and an extension cord with a knot tied into a loop.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Division. Assistant United States Attorney Mark Frazier and Special Assistant United States Attorney Teresa Raymond are prosecuting this case on behalf of the government.

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